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 SECURITY INFORMATION  
 CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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COUNTRY East Germany/West Germany

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SUBJECT Navigation in the Baltic Sea

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1. Captains of Baltic vessels have reported that the Russians have started a regular observation of navigation at the Gjedser Straits. They have stationed one lugger of the "Karl Mebknecht" type near the wreck of the GNEISENAU<sup>1</sup> east of the light ship and one to the west of it. At night these vessels remain there without lights.
2. The Soviet ship MISTA was in distress in the East Baltic during a storm period in late February or early March. It was able to reach Riga only with great difficulty.
3. The ammunition and weapon transports to Red China are carried out by Russian, Polish, Greek, and Panamanian ships. The transports generally go via Gdynia. Return freight is mostly manganese ore and oil cakes.
4. Recently, on several occasions, luggers with salvage tugs being towed by large supply ships have been observed leaving the Kiel Canal for the Black Sea. Such a convoy passed Cuxhaven on 7 March. The final destination of most Russian luggers fleets passing Cuxhaven is given as Sevastopol.

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1. [REDACTED] Comment: The GNEISENAU once blocked the harbor entrance at Gdynia [REDACTED]. It was raised in the latter part of 1951.

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